Application No. 10/672,388 Response to Office Action malled August 25, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-17, 19-29, and 31-32 are pending in this application. Independent claims 1, 13, and 21, have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter into the corresponding independent claims. Claims 10, 18, and 30, previously indicated as containing allowable subject matter, have been canceled, as the subject matter of these claims have been incorporated into claims 1, 13, and 21, respectively. No new matter has been entered through these amendments.

In light of these amendments, applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 13, and 21 are clearly patentable over the art of record, and in particular over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0184632 to *Reitmeier*. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending dependent claims are likewise patentable. As allowable features have been incorporated into each of the independent claims, all pending claims are now allowable.

Applicants have amended the independent claims in order to expedite allowance. Still, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of *Reitmer*, as Applicants believe features of claims 1, 13, and 21, as specified prior to this amendment, were not anticipated by *Reitmeier*.

Application No. 10/672,388 Response to Office Action mailed August 25, 2005

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned, who may be reached at (408) 952-6126.

ERD IPD

Respectfully submitted,

Wiehal T. Halk

Registration No. 32,896

Please address all correspondence to:

Epson Research and Development, Inc. Intellectual Property Department 150 River Oaks Parkway, Suite 225 San Jose, California 95134 Telephone: (408) 952-6000

Facsimile: (408) 954-9053 Customer No. 20178

Date: September 27, 2005